

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A hydrodynamic bearing system comprising a shaft, a thrust plate supported on an end of the shaft and having first and second axially directed surfaces, a sleeve surrounding the shaft and having an inner surface defining a gap with an outer surface of the shaft, a journal bearing being defined in the gap by grooves on one of the surfaces and fluid in the gap, the hydrodynamic bearing system further comprising a first thrust bearing defined in a gap between at least one of the axially directed surfaces of the thrust plate and a cooperating surface facing one of the thrust plate surfaces across a gap, ~~and a counterplate cup having a base defining one surface of a second bearing thrust and defining a gap therewith, and having upraised sides tightly fitted over a outer surface of the sleeve, and wherein a region of the side of the cup is fixed to an outer surface of the sleeve by adhesive or epoxy.~~

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): ~~A fluid dynamic bearing as claimed in Claim 1~~ A hydrodynamic bearing system comprising a shaft, a thrust plate supported on an end of the shaft and having first and second axially directed surfaces, a sleeve surrounding the shaft and having an inner surface defining a gap with an outer surface of the shaft, a journal bearing being defined in the gap by grooves on one of the surfaces and fluid in the gap, the hydrodynamic bearing system further comprising a first thrust bearing defined in a gap between at least one of the axially directed surfaces of the thrust plate and a cooperating surface facing one of the thrust plate surfaces across a gap, and a counterplate cup having a base defining one surface of a second bearing thrust and defining a gap therewith, and having upraised sides tightly fitted over a outer surface of the sleeve, wherein said upraised sides of the counterplate cup are fit over a reduced diameter section of the sleeve.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A fluid dynamic bearing as claimed in Claim ~~1~~ 2 wherein a region of the side of the cup is fixed to an outer surface of the sleeve by adhesive or epoxy.

Claim 4 (original): A fluid dynamic bearing as claimed in Claim 3 wherein the adhesive or epoxy joins the distal end of the cup side to the outer surface of the reduced diameter portion of the sleeve.

Claim 5 (original): A fluid dynamic bearing as claimed in Claim 4 wherein one of the base of the cup and the axially distal surface of the thrust plate comprises a pattern of

grooves to establish a fluid dynamic bearing across the gap between the two surfaces, fluid in the gap establishing the thrust bearing to support relative rotation of the thrust plate and the counterplate cup.

Claim 6 (canceled).

Claim 7 (canceled).

Claim 8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (canceled).

Claim 10 (canceled).

Claim 11 (original): A spindle motor for use in a disc drive comprising a shaft supporting a sleeve and hub for relative rotation, the hub supporting one or more discs for rotation about the shaft, and hydrodynamic bearing means for supporting the hub for rotation about the shaft, and wherein a region of the side of the hydrodynamic bearing means is fixed to an outer surface of the sleeve by adhesive or epoxy.

Claim 12 (original): A spindle motor as claimed in claim 11 wherein the hydrodynamic bearing means comprises a shaft and a thrust plate, and means for filling gaps of the hydrodynamic bearing means with fluid and entrapping the fluid in the gaps.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A spindle motor as claimed in claim 11 wherein the hydrodynamic bearing means comprises a ~~A fluid dynamic bearing as claimed in Claim 1~~ wherein sides of the counterplate cup having sleeves that are fitted over a reduced diameter section of the sleeve.

Claim 14 (canceled)

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A fluid dynamic bearing as claimed in Claim 3 13 wherein the adhesive or epoxy joins the distal end of the cup side to the outer surface of the reduced diameter portion of the sleeve.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A fluid dynamic bearing as claimed in Claim 4 15 wherein one of the base of the cup and the axially distal surface of the thrust plate comprises a pattern of grooves to establish a fluid dynamic bearing across the gap between the two surfaces, fluid in the gap establishing the thrust bearing to support relative rotation of the thrust plate and the counterplate cup.

Claim 17 (New): A fluid dynamic bearing as claimed in Claim 1 wherein a region of the side of the cup is fixed to an outer surface of the sleeve by adhesive or epoxy.